

Region III Full SFIREG Meeting Report

Prepared for June 3-4, 2019

The Region 3 Pre-SFIREG meeting was held in Philadelphia PA at the EPA Region 3 office on DC, DE, VA, WV, MD, PA) SFIREG report is respectfully submitted by Mary Begin DC Region 3 representative for Full SFIREG meeting on June 3-4, 2019.

Individual State Reports are included at the end of this report.

The Region 3 SLA's met at the Spring Pre-SFIREG meeting in Philadelphia at the Region 3 offices on March 19-20, 2019. Representatives from Delaware, Maryland, District of Columbia, Virginia, West Virginia and Philadelphia were in attendance. EPA Representatives included Region 3 FIFRA program Region 3 EPA administrators, and project officers, and team leaders. The Region 3 State Lead Agencies (SLAs) continue to have a very good working relationship with Region 3.

The topics of concern on the Agenda included:

- Guidance on communication during a Federal Government Shutdown
- EPA Region 3 Realignment
- SLA Legislative Updates
- Certification & Training revision status
- WPS & POINTS
- SFIREG EPA Dicamba Ad Hoc Work Group
- Dicamba registration decisions for 2019-2020 growing season regarding buffer zone changes
- Dicamba Pesticide Use Limitation Areas
- Bulletins Live!
- Demo by EPA on the new web based template that has been developed
- Grantee 5700 Form Analysis
- Paraquat Mitigation Measures
- Farm Bill/Hemp/cannabis/Pesticides
- Marijuana/hemp violations/States information share

Guidance on communication during a Federal Government Shutdown

Questions were raised regarding communication during a Federal Government Shutdown including Grant Commitment deadlines and the use of Federal Credentials during PEI inspections.

EPA Region 3 Realignment

There was some concern among the states over the announcement that there would be realignment and a change in contacts. Some Region 3 divisions were combined and FIFRA is now part of the Land, Chemicals and Redevelopment Division. An update was provided by John Armstead, Director of the Land, Chemicals and Redevelopment Division.

SLA Legislative Updates

The SLA's discussed pending bills, proposed and promulgated regulations including amendments to current regulations Discussions included: prohibiting the use of chlorpyrifos (MD, VA), restricting the use of neonicotinoids and Pyrethrins (DC, PA), regulating hemp (WV, PA), registering pesticides for use on medical and recreational cannabis (PA, DC WV) and

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amending pesticide rules and regulations to accommodate the updated EPA Certification and Training Rule (all SLA's).

Certification & Training revision status

At the time of the meeting an EPA Guidance documents including a template and a Q&A to provide SLA's assistance as the 2020 deadline nears.

A WPS & POINTS Update was given by EPA Region 3

Dicamba

The States updated on enforcement cases that relate to Dicamba use. Pennsylvania has concerns regarding the Dicamba registration decisions for the 2019-2020 growing season specifically buffer zone changes. This resulted in a broader discussion between all the states with similar questions on pesticide use limitation areas. Liza Fleeson (VA) gave an update on the SFIREG Dicamba Workgroup activities.

Bulletins Live

Steve Lennartz (OPP) provided a presentation to introduce how to use and understand bulletins live.

Grantee 5700 Form Analysis

Anthony Matusik, (OECA) provided a presentation on national data gathered by EPA from EOY reports

Web-Based Template for reporting

Sandra O'Neill (OPP) and Allen Demorest (Region 10) provided an update and demo by on the new web based template for reporting that has been developed

Paraquat Mitigation Measures

Maryland concerns regarding the challenges of on-line training and testing possibly the only option for training and testing. This poses a significant problem for many folks (primarily Amish Community and those with limited/slow internet access). Questions concerning the EPA's turn-around time for approving a training session the reasoning behind needing 100% required to pass exam and details on the EPA-approved training were discussed.

Farm Bill/Hemp/cannabis/Pesticides

SLA's discussed the recently passed Farm bill and how it affects the regulation of hemp in the States. There was also discussion concerning the definition of the term "hemp" to distinguish it from cannabis.

Marijuana/hemp violations/States information share

All Region SLA's have legalized the sale and use of medical marijuana. In addition, marijuana is legal for recreational use in the District. The SLA's discussed the challenges of the lack of information regarding product registration, labels that list industrial hemp among crops and tolerance establishments.